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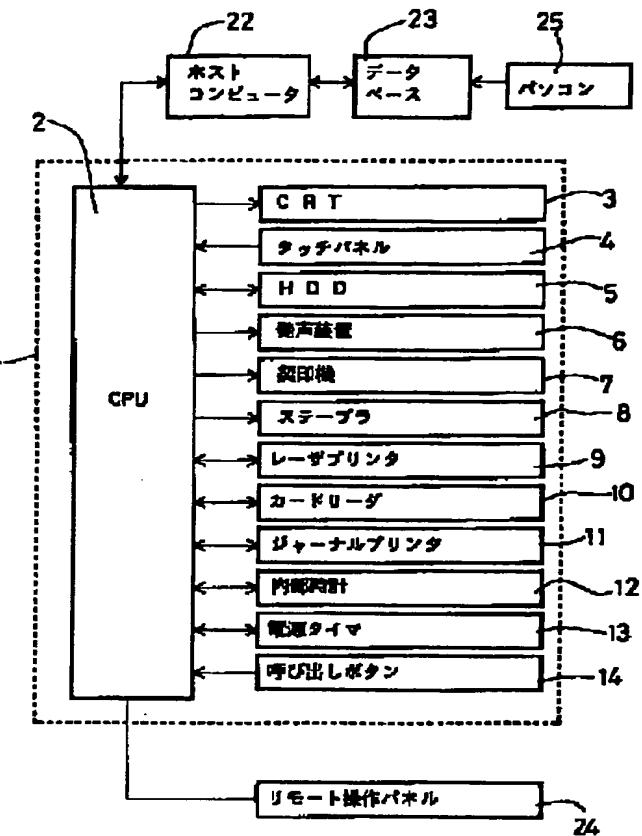
APPLICATION DATE : 18-10-96  
 APPLICATION NUMBER : 08275701

APPLICANT : BROTHER IND LTD;

INVENTOR : YOSHIMURA KAZUMA;

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TITLE : AUTOMATIC CERTIFICATE ISSUING MACHINE



**ABSTRACT :** PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To automatically judge the exchange period of a toner cartridge and to urge a manager to exchange the toner cartridge by displaying that the exchange period of the toner cartridge has come with an exchange period display means, when the number of elapsed days stored in a management register storage means exceeds the service period of the toner cartridge.

SOLUTION: An exchange history record and a management register are read out from a hard disk drive(HDD) 5 for storing various kinds of programs required for the operation of an automatic certificate issuing machine 1. The service life of toner and the greatest number of printable sheets are obtained from the exchange history record and the number of the elapsed days and a cumulative number of prints are obtained from the management register. Then, the obtained number of the elapsed days is compared with the service life of the toner. Consequently, when it is judged that the number of the elapsed days exceeds the service life of the toner, a toner cartridge exchange request message by the elapsing of the service life of the toner is displayed on a remote control panel 24. Thus, the fact that the exchange period of the toner cartridge has come is automatically displayed, so that a mistake by man can be prevented.

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